Approach paper for the Eighth Five Year Plan

1585. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1335 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the Approach Paper for the Eighth Five Year Plan has since been formulated by the Planning Commission and placed before the National Development Council;

(b) if so, the total investment proposed in the Plan; and

(c) the main features of the proposed Eighth Five Year Plan and in which areas of developmental work thrust is laid in the Approach Paper?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

1586. [*Cancelled.*]

Supply of Enzygnost kits by Behring Diagnostics

1587. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Behring Diagnostics, a subsidiary of the West German firm 'Hoechst', had supplied three lots of 'Enzygnost' kits;

(b) whether the ICMR Director General has asked the Health Ministry to ban the use of these test kits;

(c) whether ICMR has drawn Government's attention to the fact of defective AIDS Kits; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d) Three batches of AIDS detecting kits manufactured by a German firm-Behring were found defective and had been withdrawn from the European market.

45 kits belonging to these batches had been imported in India by M|s. Hoechst (India) Ltd., Bombay. The firm sold these kits in the market after carrying only visual checks and without informing that there might be any problem with the kits.

Licence granted to M|s. Hoechst (India) Ltd., Bombay for import of AIDS testing kits under the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules has been cancelled. The following instructions which are in accordance with the advise rendered by ICMR have been issued to all the port officers:—

(i) To check if the importers of AIDS kits possess certificate issued by the manufacturing firm stating that the kits are of standard quality and have been duly tested by them.

(ii) Importing firm should submit a certificate issued by the Drugs Controller of equivalent authority of the importing country stating that the manufacturer of the AIDS kits is a registered or an approved manufacturer in that country.

Freight equalisation policy

@1588. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the freight equalisation issue which is agitating the minds of the people of Eastern States;

@Previously Unstarred Question 1072, transferred from the 27th July, 1989.